



The Board of Education recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school, family and community. To support the goal of the Clarke County School District to educate all students effectively, the schools, parents and community must work as knowledgeable partners.

Although parents are diverse in ethnicity, culture, language and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. The Clarke County School District, in collaboration with parents and community, shall establish programs and practices that enhance family engagement and equity and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

To this end, the Board of Education supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a family engagement and equity program in each school, which will involve parents and community at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The family engagement and equity programs will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. They will include, but not be limited to, the following components:

Component 1: Student/Family Learning - Education is student and parent centered and inclusive of the voices and experiences of our students/families.

Component 2: Communication - Communication between home and school, is open, frequent, meaningful, and conducted in multiple ways.

Component 3: Parenting - Parenting skills are promoted and supported.

Component 4: Positive and Equitable School Culture - School cultures are open, helpful and inviting.

Component 5: Parent Decision Making / Advocacy - Parents are encouraged to provide advice, make recommendations and provide assistance in school decisions and advocacy that affect children and families.

Component 6: Collaborating with the Community The school addresses student, family, and community needs through appropriate services and cross-institutional partnerships.

Component 7: Equity in Human Resources - Our schools value the diversity of our families by utilizing the life experiences and community memberships of children, family and staff to support individual student growth and overall school goals.

The Superintendent shall develop specific indicators and guidance for each of the above components and publish them in a corresponding regulation.

The Board of Education supports professional learning opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective family engagement and equity strategies. The Board also recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parent/guardian participation.

In addition to programs at the school level, the Board of Education supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a program to engage families/community in the decisions and practices of the school district, using the

components listed above. This district shall foster and support active family engagement and equity. Engaging parents is essential to improved student achievement.

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Clarke County School District

Date Adopted: 8/11/2005

Last Revised: 5/14/2009